CHEMICAL USE AMONG P.E.I. STUDENTS

1982

by

James Killorn, B.A., M.A. (Psych.)
Guidance Counsellor
Stonepark Jr. High School

Edited by

Leo H. Killorn, M.D.
Alcohol and Drug Problems Institute
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

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INTRODUCTION

The third survey carried out to examine the chemical use among Prince Edward Island students was conducted in May of 1982. This report is a detailed breakdown of the findings of this most recent study. When this type of study was first instituted in 1972, it was projected that it should be repeated every five years in order that significant trends in the chemical use of school students could be determined and examined. For varying reasons the second study was carried out in 1976, and this study in 1982, but the mild discrepancy in the time sequence of the conduction of the studies is not considered significant. It is hoped that with the excellent cooperation of all resources involved, that a similar study will be carried out in 1987.

The major focus of these surveys is to determine the incidence and pattern of chemical use among school students on Prince Edward Island and to compare the findings with the previous studies on P.E.I., as well as with studies conducted in other areas of North America. The purpose is to provide solid data on which discussions may be held among various elements in the community, which previous to these studies have had to rely on

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anecdotal estimates of the extent of the chemical problem among adolescents on Prince Edward Island.

Adolescent chemical use has been an area of major concern for almost two decades. It is referred to colloquially by the community as the "drug problem". The public has been alternately fearful and complacent about the extent of this problem and its influence on young people as a whole, and their own children in particular. This report is not intended to either increase or decrease the amount of concern of the public, but to provide a factual analysis of the situation as it actually exists. The people who developed and conducted this survey believe that since sufficient persons were surveyed over a broad enough area, that the results will reflect as high a degree of accuracy as possible, and that definite conclusions can be drawn from the results of the survey.

Young people are often the forerunners of social change in our communities and this has been especially true in the area of chemical use. The use of chemicals in our society has increased dramatically over the past decade with the availability of many different forms of mood altering chemicals. Many mood altering chemicals

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which are illegal in our society have become available to adolescents, and this is reflected in the survey. The rise or fall in the popularity of particular chemicals is very susceptible to change in the adolescent population, and consequently related problems occur for these adolescents, their families, government agencies, the education system, and in fact the entire social structure.

We, therefore, feel that it is very important to get an accurate picture of adolescent chemical use periodically so that informed public discussion and policy making can take place. It is hoped that this survey and its comparison to previous surveys on chemical use among P.E.I. students will contribute valuable information on this important topic.

Considerable attention has been focussed on alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco both in the survey questionnaire (Appendix B), and in the analysis of the data in this report. This has been done because of the wide useage of chemicals included under these headings in the sample population. For the purpose of this report, alcohol refers to any liquid containing the drug ethanol, namely beer, wine, and spirits including rum, vodka, etc.; cannabis refers to marijuana and hashish in their various forms; tobacco refers to nicotine contained and utilized

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in cigarettes. It is believed that the public and the professional community is mainly interested in the student's pattern of use of these three chemical forms.

In addition to these three, extra attention is given to the pattern of use of magic mushrooms and oral stimulants because of the significant proportion of students reporting experimentation with these materials in the 1982 survey. Magic mushrooms contain as their major ingredient the drug psilocybin, an hallucinogen somewhat milder in its effects than marijuana. This material is available on Prince Edward Island because it grows wild in the coastal regions of Canada. Oral stimulants include mainly those drugs which are used for weight control such as amphetamines and other diet pills. For the purpose of this survey these can also be considered illegal since none of the students obtain these on prescription.

The main body of the report is written at different levels of complexity. In each sub-section there are two different parts. The first part provides an analysis of data collected and cross-tabulations which have been made with appropriate statistical charts provided. The second part of each sub-section provides a summary of the major findings associated with that area of concern.

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The final section of the report contains a summary of what is felt are the major findings of the report as a whole, as well as recommendations based on the information gained from this and previous surveys. These recommendations are of necessity rather general, as their purpose is to facilitate discussion and possible action by the appropriate agencies based on the results tabulated.

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METHOD

Sample

The participants in the survey were 1,559 Prince Edward Island students from Grades VII through XII. This sample represents 10% of students in Grades VII, VIII and IX, and 15% of students in Grades X, XI, and XII respectively.

A multi-stage cluster sampling technique was used to select the respondents (Friedman, Pizzani, and Purvis 1978). The sampling units were individual students or classes selected at random by individual students from school within each of Prince Edward Island's five school units. The number of classes in Grade VII through XII in a given unit was proportional to the 10% and 15% samples described above. For the two smallest school units (Units 1 and 5), every school was surveyed. For the remaining units, a sub-set of between three and five schools were selected in an effort to reduce the number of schools visited. The schools in these units were selected (as they were in the 1976 survey) to provide a representative number of urban and rural students. The demographic characteristics are given in Appendix A.

Questionnaire

The student questionnaire on the incidence of drug

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use on Prince Edward Island is a modified version of the questionnaire used in a similar study by Weiden and Killorn (1976). That questionnaire in turn represents a modified version of a questionnaire used in Toronto by Smart, Fejer, Smith and White, 1974. Modifications involved the clarification or elimination of questions that were felt to be ambiguous, and the addition of questions felt to be of current interest or related to local concerns.

Comparisons between the three P.E.I. studies are based on questions that remained essentially the same, (the complete 1982 questionnaire is presented in Appendix B).

The 154 multiple choice questions that comprise the 1982 survey can be roughly divided into three categories. The first group of questions deals with basic demographic material such as age, sex, grade, religion, and parental occupational, educational, and employment status.

The second group concerns the student's level of use and experience with drugs with particular emphasis given to alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco.

The last group of questions relate to attitudes, sources of information, and parental use of drugs.

Procedure

Two senior surveyors with expertise in the area of

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drug information administered the questionnaire in April and May of 1982. Certain precautions were taken in order to minimize the inherrent problems involved in the administration of this type of questionnaire. Following are some of these precautions:

1. students were not given advance notice of the survey;
2. teachers were asked not to participate in the administration of the survey;
3. students were assurred of the complete anonymity of their responses by the survey administrator and on the cover of the questionnaire;
4. students were instructed not to place any identifying marks, such as their names, on the questionnaire;
5. emphasis was given to the importance of answering all questions as honestly as possible;
6. students were encouraged to ask for help from the administrators of the survey if they felt any question needed clarification.

The students were given approximately fifty minutes to complete the questionnaire. The average completion time was about twenty-five minutes. Only five of the student questionnaires were rejected due to student disinterest in completing the questionnaire or obvious student error.

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PREVALENCE OF DRUG USE AMONG P.E.I. STUDENTS

This section summarizes the incidence and frequency of drug use among students from Grades VII to XII in Prince Edward Island junior and senior high schools. Comparisons are also made between the incidence of drug use in this survey and the 1976 and 1972 student sample populations.

Incidence of Drug Use (Table 1)

Alcohol continues to be the most widely used drug among students in 1982, with two thirds of all students (67%) reporting use at least once in the past six months. There is a small (3%), but significant, increase in the use of alcohol in 1982 as compared to the 1976 survey, and a very large increase (22%) compared to the 1972 student population.

Marijuana (Cannabis) use by students showed the largest increase in usage of any drug since the 1976 survey. In 1982, one out of every four students (25%) reported having used cannabis, compared to 15% in 1976 and 9.4% in 1972.

The significant increase in cannabis use over the past six years is in contrast to the surveyed results

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TABLE 1

INCIDENCE OF DRUG USE - TOTAL SAMPLE: GRADES VII TO XII

Percent Using Drug At Least Once In Prior Six Months

DRUG	1972	1976	1982
Alcohol	45.8	64.5 [3]	67.3 [1,2]
Cannabis	9.4	15.1 [3]	24.9 [1,2]
Tobacco	46.5	49.1	49.8 [1]
Solvents	2.3	4.2 [3]	3.3
Tranquilizers	3.9	3.5	2.2 [1,2]
Barbiturates	2.6	1.4 [3]	2.6 [1]
Non-barbiturates Hypnotics	N.A.	2.9	3.2
Mescaline	N.A.	2.8	1.2 [1]
L.S.D.	1.8	1.7	2.7
P.C.P.	N.A.	N.A.	1.4
Magic Mushrooms	N.A.	N.A.	11.0
Cocaine	N.A.	2.7	1.8
Stimulants (Oral)	3.8	2.2 [3]	7.4 [1,2]
Stimulants (Needle)	N.A.	0.7	0.8

* N.A. - Data not collected in Survey.

[1] 1982 significantly different from 1976 (p. .05)

[2] 1982 significantly different from 1972 (p. .05)

[3] 1976 significantly different from 1972 (p. .05)

in Ontario and the United States, where use is reported by more students (approximately 30%), but the increase in use over the same period has been only half as much as in Prince Edward Island.

Magic Mushrooms (psilocybin) is the second most widely used illicit drug after marijuana, with 11% of students reporting having used this drug during the past six months. The use of this drug was a new question in the P.E.I. surveys and is not asked in surveys in other areas, so there is no basis for a comparison of the increase of its use here or of its use elsewhere.

Oral Stimulants (amphetamines or other pep and diet pills - speed) use was reported by 7.4% of students in 1982. This is a significant increase over the two previous surveys (1976 - 2.2% and 1972 - 3.8%). Oral stimulant use among Ontario students also increased significantly from 1977 (7%) to 1981 (12%).

Tobacco (nicotine) use was reported by 50% of all students in the survey. The number of students who have used tobacco was not significantly different from the 1976 student population, but there was a small (3%), but significant increase as compared to the 1972 sample. Tobacco use by students continues to be much higher in

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Prince Edward Island than in other areas, ex. Ontario, 30% in 1981.

All other drugs surveyed were used by a much smaller number of students (4% or less). Significant increases, however, were reported from 1976 to 1982 in the use of barbiturates (1.4% to 2.6%) and a decrease in the use of tranquillizers (3.5% to 2.2%), and the use of mescaline (2.8% to 1.2%).

Major Findings -

1. The use of marijuana (cannabis) among P.E.I. junior and senior high school students has increased significantly since the 1976 survey. Twenty-five percent of all students surveyed now report having used this drug over the past six months.
2. The incidence of cannabis use on Prince Edward Island is now approaching the level found among high school students in Ontario and the United States. Six years ago the incidence was significantly lower and, therefore, there has been a more marked increase over the past six years than in other areas.
3. Alcohol is still the most widely used drug among students, and the percentage of users has

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increased slightly since the 1976 survey. Two-thirds of all students report having used alcohol at least once during the past six months.

4. Ten percent of all surveyed students have tried magic mushrooms during the past six months.
5. There has been a significant increase in the use of oral stimulants since the last survey, with 7% of all students now reporting having tried this drug type.
6. Fifty percent of students reported the use of tobacco during the past six months, which is significantly higher than in other areas of the country.

Frequency of Drug Use (Tables 2 and 3)

Tobacco was the most frequently used drug with 24.4% of all students reporting daily use (Table 2). Table 3 shows that of students who reported using tobacco at least once in the previous six months, nearly one-half (49%) used it daily.

Even though alcohol is used by a much higher percentage of students than cannabis, a higher percentage of students use cannabis on a daily basis (1.1%, as compared to alcohol, 0.6%). It is, however, noted that almost five times as many students use alcohol on a weekly basis (15.3%) as use cannabis on a

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TABLE 2

FREQUENCY OF DRUG USE - TOTAL SAMPLE (%)

DRUG TYPE	NEVER	1 or 2 TIMES	LESS THAN WEEKLY	WEEKLY	DAILY
Alcohol	32.7	27.5	23.9	15.3	0.6
Cannabis	75.1	12.8	7.5	3.4	1.1
Tobacco	50.2	14.8	6.5	4.2	24.4
Magic Mushrooms	89.0	8.9	1.7	0.3	0.1
Stimulants (Oral)	92.6	5.0	1.7	0.6	0.2

TABLE 3

FREQUENCY OF DRUG USE

FOR STUDENTS REPORTING DRUG USE (%)

DRUG TYPE	1 or 2 TIMES	LESS THAN WEEKLY	WEEKLY	DAILY
Alcohol	40.9	36.5	22.7	0.9
Cannabis	51.4	30.1	13.7	4.8
Tobacco	29.7	13.0	8.3	49.0
Magic Mushrooms	80.9	15.5	2.7	0.9
Stimulants (Oral)	67.6	23.0	8.0	2.3

weekly basis (3.4%).

Another important fact revealed in Table 3 is that one of every twenty cannabis users (4.8%) have been using that drug on a daily basis, as opposed to one in every hundred alcohol users (0.9%).

The frequency of use of magic mushrooms and oral stimulants was relatively low compared to tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis. Eight-one percent of magic mushroom users and 68% of oral stimulant users reported using the drug only once or twice in the previous six months (Table 3). This may be due to the lesser availability of these drugs.

Major Findings -

1. One of every twenty students who reported using cannabis over the past six months are using it on a daily basis.
2. One out of every six students are using alcohol on a weekly basis.
3. The vast majority of students who had tried oral stimulants or magic mushrooms did so only once or twice in the previous six months.
4. Daily use of tobacco was reported by 25% of all students surveyed.

Sex Differences in Drug Use (Table 4)

Higher proportions of male high school students are

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TABLE 4

DRUG USE BY SEX - TOTAL SAMPLE

Percent Using Drug At Least Once In Prior Six Months

DRUG TYPE	SEX	1972	1976	1982
Alcohol	Male	56.0	66.8	69.2
	Female	36.2	62.7	65.4
Cannabis	Male	12.7	18.8	27.1
	Female	6.4	13.6	22.4
Tobacco	Male	50.7	44.4	44.1
	Female	42.6	52.2	54.4
Magic Mushrooms	Male	N.A.	N.A.	14.7
	Female	N.A.	N.A.	7.9

*N.A. - Data not collected in survey.

involved in using alcohol and cannabis in 1982 than female students. The differences are approximately the same as in 1976 where a sharp increase had been reported from the incidence, particularly in females, from 1972. The ratios in 1982 are 69.2% males and 65.4% females, while for cannabis the ratio is 27.1% male to 22.4% female.

It is significant that during the last ten years the increase in the use of alcohol among males has been approximately 13% while the increase among females has been 29%. The increase in cannabis use in both male and female is 15 to 16%.

Magic mushroom (psilocybin) use in 1982 was reported by a significantly higher portion of males than females (14.7% compared to 7.9%). Comparison data is not available from other surveys since this drug was not surveyed previously.

Frequent use of alcohol (daily or weekly) is higher among males who use alcohol (26%) than females who use alcohol (21%).

Frequent use of cannabis (daily or weekly) is higher among males who have used this drug (20%) than females who have used this drug (16%).

In 1972 there were significantly more males than females using tobacco (50.7% to 42.6%). In 1976 this sex

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difference was reversed because of a decrease in the number of males using and a sharp increase in the number of females reporting use (44.4% to 53.2%). The numbers have not changed significantly in the 1982 survey, with 54.4% of females and 44.1% of males reporting use of tobacco at least once in the last six months.

Also, the total sample, more females (28%) than males (20%), are frequent (daily) users of tobacco.

Major Findings -

1. More males than females report using alcohol, cannabis, and magic mushrooms.
2. More males than female alcohol and cannabis users are frequent users (weekly or daily) of these drugs.
3. Daily tobacco use is higher among females than males by a ratio of 3 to 2.
4. Female use of alcohol and cannabis in increasing at a more rapid rate than male use.

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Poly-Drug Use (Table 5 and 6)
(Use of More Than One Drug)

The results of the survey show a high positive correlation (.56) between the frequency of tobacco use and the frequency of alcohol use; between the frequency of tobacco use and the frequency of cannabis use (.65); and also between the frequency of alcohol use and frequency of cannabis use (.78). The conclusion is that the more frequently a student used tobacco, the more frequently they also tended to use alcohol and/or cannabis. Also, the more frequently a student used alcohol, the more frequently they tended to use cannabis.

Table 5 indicates a strong correlation between frequency of tobacco use and using alcohol at some time in the previous six months. Less than half (47%) of those students who reported never using tobacco have used alcohol during the previous six months, whereas 93% of those students reporting daily use of tobacco have used alcohol in the previous six months. Proportionately about twice as many daily tobacco users as non-tobacco users use alcohol.

The relationship between increasing use of tobacco and cannabis use is also very strong (Table 5). Ten percent of those students who never use tobacco have reported using cannabis during the previous six months, whereas among daily tobacco users there is a dramatic rise in

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TABLE 5

FREQUENCY OF TOBACCO USE AND OTHER DRUG USE INCIDENCE (%)

	Frequency of Tobacco Use				
At Least Once In Prior Six Months	Never	1 or 2 Times	Less Than Weekly	Weekly	Daily
Alcohol Users	47.0	77.5	89.0	89.1	93.1
Cannabis Users	10.4	13.8	25.0	46.0	58.0

TABLE 6

FREQUENCY OF ALCOHOL USE AND INCIDENCE OF CANNABIS USE (%)

	Frequency of Alcohol Use				
At Least Once In Prior Six Months	Never	1 or 2 Times	Less Than Weekly	Weekly	Daily
Cannabis	0.8	16.2	40.3	65.3	77.8

the number of cannabis users to almost 60% (58%). Proportionately almost six times as many daily tobacco users also use cannabis than do non-tobacco users.

The relationship between the increase in use of alcohol and using cannabis at least once in the previous six months is also very strong (Table 6). Among those students who reported no use of alcohol, only about 1% (.8%) also reported using cannabis. This is in marked contrast to those students who reported at least weekly use of alcohol, as among these students about 67% also reported having tried cannabis at least once. Proportionately about eighty times as many weekly alcohol users also use cannabis than do non-users of alcohol.

Major Findings -

1. Daily tobacco users are six times as likely to be using cannabis as are non-users of tobacco.
2. Daily tobacco users are twice as likely to be using alcohol as are non-users of tobacco.
3. The more frequently a student uses tobacco the more frequently they also tend to use alcohol or cannabis.
4. Students who use alcohol at least on a weekly basis are a remarkable eighty times more likely to have also tried cannabis than are those students who do not use alcohol.

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DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CORRELATES OF DRUG USEAGE

Since the Toronto Drug Use Study of 1968, researchers have all but abandoned the search for simple, causative factors responsible for drug use. A wide variety of demographic and social variables are at present judged to be related to drug use, although accurate determination of their causal significance at present is impossible.

The Prince Edward Island studies have adopted two approaches to the study of the influence of the variables on drug use. Method I involves an analysis of a variety of demographic and environmental factors related to the use or non-use of drugs. These environmental factors include the school environment, peer group environment, general social environment, family environment, and personal experiences.

Method II involves detailed cross-tabulations between demographic and social variables and the use of drugs. It must be remembered, however, that even though information may be obtained on some of the factors relating to drug use, that statements of causality still cannot be made with any degree of accuracy.

Demographic Characteristics

Age (Table 7)

Initial experimentation with most drugs, except

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TABLE 7

AGE FIRST USED DRUG (%)

	DRUG TYPE				
AGE	ALCOHOL	CANNABIS	TOBACCO	MAGIC MUSHROOMS	STIMULANTS (ORAL)
Under 12	9.2	1.0	25.6	0.4	0.3
12	5.6	1.9	11.0	0.8	0.4
13	15.7	4.5	13.3	2.4	1.0
14	17.2	7.3	8.4	2.7	1.8
15	14.3	8.8	5.4	3.7	2.4
16	7.3	6.9	2.6	3.9	2.6
17	2.1	2.7	0.7	1.8	1.6
18 and over	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.7
Never	27.8	66.4	32.9	83.8	89.3

tobacco, occurs between the ages of thirteen and sixteen for most students. Table 7 provides data on five of the most commonly used drugs (alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, magic mushrooms, and oral stimulants) and the age students first used these drugs.

Alcohol use at least once in their life was reported by 72.2% of the students. Among those students reporting alcohol use, 65% had their first experience between the ages of thirteen and fifteen, and 20% had their first experience before they were thirteen years of age.

Cannabis use at least once in the student's life was reported by one-third of those surveyed. The great majority of these cannabis users (82%) first used this drug between the ages of thirteen and sixteen, and less than one-tenth (9%) first used it before the age of thirteen.

Magic mushroom use has been reported by one-sixth of all students at least on one occasion. Among users, 80% had their first experience between the ages of thirteen and sixteen, and 8% reported first time use before the age of thirteen.

Oral stimulant use on at least one occasion was reported by just over 10% of the students.

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The pattern of first use was very similar to cannabis and magic mushrooms, with the majority (73%) first using between the ages of thirteen and sixteen, and less than 10% (7.5%) before age thirteen.

Solvents have been used at least once in their life by 6% of the students with about half of these students first using solvents before they were thirteen.

Two-thirds of all the students reported using tobacco at least once. Among the users, 75% first used tobacco before the age of fourteen, and 38% before the age of twelve.

Major Findings -

1. Approximately 80% of students who have used either alcohol, cannabis, or magic mushrooms have had their initial experience with these chemicals between the ages of thirteen and sixteen.
2. Seventy-five percent of tobacco users report having their first experience before the age of fourteen, and more than one-third report using before the age of twelve.

Grade (Table 8)

The incidence of alcohol and cannabis use rose linearly with the grade of the student in 1982 as it did

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TABLE 8

DRUG USE BY GRADE

Percent Using Drug At Least Once in Prior Six Months

DRUG	GRADE LEVEL	1972	1976	1982
Alcohol	7	22.5	40.3	26.5
	8	35.8	51.6	56.2
	9	43.2	67.5	61.1
	10	52.0	71.1	73.2
	11	56.7	72.9	81.8
	12	67.7	85.1	87.0
Cannabis	7	2.5	3.2	5.2
	8	6.4	4.0	17.1
	9	7.9	11.5	20.5
	10	9.5	21.4	28.2
	11	16.3	24.1	31.2
	12	14.3	25.4	37.1
Tobacco	7	31.6	38.7	23.9
	8	46.2	44.6	56.2
	9	51.9	58.8	50.9
	10	44.5	50.4	56.8
	11	50.4	52.7	49.3
	12	51.3	50.3	54.0
Magic Mushrooms	7	N.A.	N.A.	4.3
	8	N.A.	N.A.	11.9
	9	N.A.	N.A.	10.6
	10	N.A.	N.A.	13.3
	11	N.A.	N.A.	11.9
	12	N.A.	N.A.	11.8

* N.A.: Data not collected in survey.

in 1976 and 1972 (Table 8). Thus, more students reported using the drugs with each succeeding grade level.

Alcohol in 1982 had been used at least once in the previous six months by 87% of Grade XII students (Table 8).

Alcohol use during the prior six months by students in 1982 rose very sharply from Grade VII (26.5%) to Grade VIII (56.2%) and from Grade IX (61.1%) to Grade X (73.2%). More modest increases of from five to eight percent occurred between the other grade levels (Table 8).

There was a significant decrease from 1976 to 1982 in the incidence of alcohol use among Grade VII students (1976 - 40%; 1982 - 26%) and Grade IX students (1976 - 67%; 1982 - 61%).

A significant increase in the incidence of alcohol use from 1976 to 1982 occurred among Grade XI students (1976 - 73%; 1982 - 82%).

The incidence of cannabis use among Grade XII students in 1982 (37%) was significantly higher than in 1976 (25.4%) and remarkably higher than in 1972 (14.3%). At all other grade levels, except Grade VII there was a significant increase since the last survey (Table 8).

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The incidence of cannabis use increases from grade to grade in 1982, showing a pattern almost identical to that reported for alcohol. The sharpest increases in percentage of students using cannabis were between Grade VII (5.2%) and Grade VIII (17.1%), and from Grade IX (20.5%) to Grade X (28.2%). More modest increase of from three to six percent occurred between the other grade levels (Table 8).

Magic mushroom use increases sharply from Grade VII (4.3%) to Grade VIII (11.9%). After this increase in use there is a leveling off of the number of students who have used this drug for the remaining grades. Uses ranges from a low of 10.6% in Grade IX to a peak of 13.3% in Grade X.

Tobacco use among students increased significantly between 1976 and 1982 in Grade VIII (from 45% to 56%), and in Grade X (from 50% to 57%). Significant decreases in use during this time period occurred in Grade VII (34% to 24%) and Grade IX (59% to 51%).

Tobacco use among students in 1982 increased very sharply from Grade VII (23.9%) to Grade VIII (56.2%). Changes between other grades were erratic with student use ranging from 49% to 57%.

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Major Findings -

1. The percentage of students reporting alcohol and cannabis use increases with each succeeding grade level.
2. The largest increases in the number of students using alcohol or cannabis occurred from Grade VII to Grade VIII and from Grade IX to Grade X.
3. The largest increase in number of students using tobacco occurred from Grade VII to Grade VIII.
4. In a comparison of 1976 and 1982 results, Grade VII is the only grade where there is a drop in the number of students using tobacco or alcohol. Also, Grade VII was the only grade where there was no increase in the number of students using cannabis.
5. Eighty-seven percent of Grade XII students reported alcohol use in the previous six months, and 37% reported cannabis use in the previous six months.

Years Residence on Prince Edward Island (Table 9)

Alcohol use by students with less than three years of residence on Prince Edward Island was approximately 10% less than students with more than three years residence. No significant difference for alcohol use occurred between the other categories of length of residence (life, more

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than seven years, three to six years).

Cannabis use in the 1982 survey was related to years of residence on Prince Edward Island also. A greater proportion of students (36.3%) residing for six years or less reported using cannabis than those residing for a longer period of time (23.4%). These findings are consistent with the pattern reported in the 1972 survey.

Magic mushroom use by students was related to years of Prince Edward Island residence. The use of this drug increased with decreasing years of residence.

No significant differences occurred with tobacco use as related to years of residence with one exception. A larger proportion of students in the less than three year category used tobacco than in the other categories.

Major Findings -

1. The longer a student had been living on Prince Edward Island, the less likely they were to be using either magic mushrooms or cannabis, but the more likely they were to be using alcohol.
2. Thirteen percent more of short-term student residents used cannabis than long-term residents.
3. Long-term residents were 10% more likely to use alcohol

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TABLE 9

DRUG USE BY YEARS OF RESIDENCE ON P.E.I.

Percent Using Drug At Least Once In Prior Six Months

DRUG TYPE	LIFE	MORE THAN SIX YEARS	THREE TO SIX YEARS	LESS THAN THREE YEARS
Alcohol	67.5	67.7	69.0	58.1
Cannabis	23.1	23.9	36.1	35.6
Tobacco	49.3	50.3	47.0	61.1
Magic Mushrooms	9.6	12.6	14.0	20.5

TABLE 10

DRUG USE BY HOME LOCATION

Percent Using Drug At Least Once In Prior Six Months

	LOCATION			
DRUG TYPE	CITY	TOWN	VILLAGE	RURAL
Alcohol	76.2	70.4	62.7	65.8
Cannabis	37.7	27.5	25.3	19.0
Tobacco	54.5	55.3	48.4	46.8
Magic Mushrooms	15.4	14.7	11.3	7.6

than short-term residents.

Home Location (Table 10)

Prevalence rates for alcohol, cannabis, and magic mushrooms were highly associated with urbanicity. The proportion of students using these drugs increased significantly from rural to village; village to town; and town to city.

Alcohol use was about 10% higher among urban students than among rural students.

Cannabis was used by almost twice as many urban students (37.7%) as rural students (19%).

Magic mushroom use and home location showed a pattern very similar to cannabis with twice as many urban (15.4%) as rural (7.6%) students reporting experimenting with this drug.

Tobacco was used by about 8% more urban than rural students.

Major Findings -

1. The number of students using all categories of drugs increased significantly from rural to village to town to city.
2. With alcohol, the ratio from rural to city was 65.8% to 76.2%.
3. With cannabis, the incidence was more significant with an increase from 19% rural to 37.7% city.

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The School and Peer Environment

School Performance(Tables 11 and 12)

There is a statistically significant relationship between a student's overall subject average and the use of alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, and magic mushrooms (Table 11). As academic performance increases there is a significant decrease in the likelihood that a student is using these drugs, both in choosing to use the drug and in frequency of use. This finding in the 1982 survey is consistent with the findings in the 1972 and 1976 surveys.

Again, a causal relationship based on the preventive power of academic performance cannot be established, although a strong correlation can be stated confidently.

Cannabis and magic mushrooms showed the most dramatic increase in the proportion of students using these drugs corresponding to decreasing overall subject average. Alcohol and tobacco also showed an increase as school grades diminish.

Students who reported a decrease in overall subject average as opposed to last year were more likely to be using alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, or magic mushrooms than those whose average had increased or remained the same, (Table 12). These findings in the 1982 survey are again consistent with the 1976 survey results.

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TABLE 11

OVERALL SUBJECT AVERAGE AND DRUG USE

Percent Using Drug At Least Once In Prior Six Months

	AVERAGE GRADE				
DRUG TYPE	90's	80's	70's	60's	Below 60
Alcohol	32.4	53.2	70.9	78.3	83.0
Cannabis	9.5	14.6	23.0	35.4	37.2
Tobacco	20.0	36.7	51.1	61.3	67.0
Magic Mushrooms	2.9	5.4	8.1	16.3	21.3

TABLE 12

CHANGE IN OVERALL SUBJECT AVERAGE AND DRUG USE

Percent Using Drug At Least Once in Prior Six Months

	Subject Average This Year As Opposed To Last Year		
DRUG TYPE	SAME	INCREASED	DECREASED
Alcohol	62.2	68.3	74.8
Cannabis	21.0	26.1	29.9
Tobacco	45.0	50.1	56.9
Magic Mushrooms	7.6	11.1	15.9

Major Findings -

1. Students who had progressively higher over-all averages were less likely to use, or frequently use either alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, or magic mushrooms.
2. Students who reported that their average had decreased in the past year were more likely to be using the above chemicals than those who reported no change, or an increase in their over-all average.

Pattern of Use - Alcohol and Cannabis (Table 13)

The majority of students reported being with friends when using alcohol (70.1%) or cannabis (78.2%). Few students drank (2%) or used cannabis (3%) by themselves.

Approximately one-sixth of students reported using these drugs with a date the last time they used (Table 13A).

Most alcohol using students (82.5%) drank to the point of inebriation at least some of the time, with 43.3% becoming drunk at least half of the times they drank. There was a significant increase from 1976 (11.8%) to 1982 (23%) in the proportion of drinking students who always, or nearly always, became drunk when using alcohol (Table 13B).

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TABLE 13

PATTERN OF USE - ALCOHOL AND CANNABIS USERS (%)

(Who with, how much, where used, and how obtained.)

A. Who With Last Time Used	Alcohol	Cannabis
Friend	70.1	78.2
Date	16.2	14.1
Parents	7.7	0.8
Brother/Sister	4.0	3.9
Myself	2.0	3.0
B. Got Drunk When Drinking		
Never	17.5	---
Seldom	33.2	---
Half of the Time	26.3	---
Nearly Always	23.0	---
C. Where Used Last Time		
Home	16.1	7.0
Public Place - Outdoors	14.9	24.9
Public Place - Indoors	15.0	4.1
Friends Home	29.2	29.1
Car	13.0	23.7

D. How Obtained Last Time

Alcohol		Cannabis	
Bought Myself - Store	14	Pusher	18
Bought Myself - Bar	14	Bought From Friend	23
Friend/Store	49	Free From Friend	53
Bootlegger	5	Grew Own	3
Stranger	2	Brother/Sister	4
Parents' Supply	13		

The most popular place for using alcohol or cannabis was at a friend's home (29.2% and 29.1%). Other popular places for alcohol use were in the student's own home (16%), a public place indoors (15%), or outdoors (14.9%), and in a car (13%). Other popular places for using cannabis were at a public place outdoors (24.9%) or in a car (23.7%), (Table 13C). Half of the students using alcohol (49%) obtained it the last time by getting a friend to buy it. Others obtained it in a bar or restaurant (14%), bought it themselves (14%) or used their parents' supply (13%), (Table 13D).

Cannabis was obtained free from a friend by over one-half (53%) of the students who reported using this drug and one-quarter (23%) bought it from a friend. Pushers supplied 18% of the cannabis using students (Table 13D).

More than one-third (38%) indicated that drinking had increased in their school in the past year, while 4% felt it had decreased, 20% that it was the same, and 38% did not venture an opinion.

Twenty percent of the students felt cannabis use had increased in the past year in their school, 8% that it had decreased, 19% that it was the same, and 53% felt

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they could not offer an opinion.

Of those students who have used alcohol or cannabis and who have a driver's license, 42% report having driven a vehicle within one hour of using cannabis, 68% report this same activity within one hour of having at least two drinks.

In summary, it bears repeating that students' pattern of use of alcohol and cannabis is strongly related to the involvement of friends. The majority obtain these drugs from and use with friends, and the highest ranked place where they use these drugs is at a friend's home.

Major Findings -

1. Approximately three-quarters of students using alcohol or cannabis reported that their last use was with friends.
2. Three-quarters of cannabis users reported getting it either free from a friend, or buying it from a friend. Half of the alcohol users obtained it from a friend.
3. The most frequent place students use alcohol or cannabis is at a friend's home.
4. Twice as many students in 1982 report getting drunk, always or nearly always, than in 1976.
5. Two-thirds of alcohol users and two-fifths of cannabis users with driver's licenses, report having driven

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within one hour of use of these drugs.

6. Although more students felt that the use of alcohol and cannabis had increased in their school in the past year than those who felt it had remained the same or decreased, it should be noted that a large percentage of students failed to pass any opinion on this question.

Consequences of Drug Use - Alcohol and Cannabis (Table 14)

Among students using alcohol or cannabis the proportion reporting negative consequences while using, is quite similar for almost all of the consequences surveyed. The only significant differences occurred with more alcohol users (56.2%) than cannabis users (22.7%) experiencing the feeling of being physically ill during or after use, and more cannabis users (29.8%) than alcohol users (20.2%) reported skipping classes as a result of using the drug (Table 14).

Other highly ranked consequences experienced by students while using alcohol or cannabis, were feeling restless, nervous or 'uptight' (41% and 39% respectively), not doing homework (35% and 30%), missing school (19% and 24%), and fighting (21% and 16% respectively) (Table 14).

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TABLE 14

CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE - ALCOHOL AND CANNABIS USERS (%)

EXPERIENCE	ALCOHOL	CANNABIS
School - missed half day	18.8	24.4
- disciplined	4.3	4.1
- skipped classes	20.2	29.8
- damaged property	6.7	8.2
- incomplete work	34.7	30.4
Arrested	5.6	4.3
Fighting	20.8	15.5
Stole	11.7	10.4
Accident or Physical Injury	11.9	6.8
Restless, Nervous, Uptight	41.1	38.7
Felt Ill	56.2	22.7

Major Findings -

1. Students reported that they are twice as likely to become physically ill after the use of alcohol as after cannabis.
2. A higher percentage of cannabis users than alcohol users reported skipping classes as a result of using the drug.
3. Feeling nervous or restless was ranked high as an experience resulting from alcohol and/or cannabis use.

Reason For Not Using Drugs (Table 15)

The most frequently reported reason for not using alcohol, cannabis, or tobacco, was lack of interest in the drug. For each of these drugs approximately two out of every five non-drug using students cited this as the major reason for not using the drug.

Significantly more students cited physical harmfulness of the drug as their major reason for not using cannabis (31.4%), and tobacco (28.4%) than for alcohol (10.2%). Conversly, more alcohol non-users (11.9%) cited their major eason as parental disapproval than for cannabis (3.3%) or tobacco non-users (5.4%).

Interestingly, very few non-users (less than 1%) of these three drugs reported friends disapproval as the

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TABLE 15

REASON FOR NOT USING DRUGS (%)

Percent Students Presently Not Using Drug

REASON	ALCOHOL	CANNABIS	TOBACCO
Physically Harmful	10.2	31.4	28.4
Makes Me Sick	5.7	2.0	7.9
Morally Wrong	6.8	9.0	2.8
Interferes Too Much	10.4	7.3	11.9
Might Become Dependent	9.6	6.3	5.0
Parents Won't Allow	11.9	3.3	5.4
Friends	0.5	0.3	0.6
Not Interested	44.8	40.5	38.1

TABLE 16

IMPORTANT REASONS FOR USING DRUGS (%)

Students Using Drug At Least Once in Prior Six Months

REASON	ALCOHOL	CANNABIS	TOBACCO
More at Ease in Group	39.0	33.6	31.2
Express Self Easier	36.5	30.2	--
More at Ease - Opposite Sex	39.8	32.4	22.4
Bored	48.6	48.2	57.0
Friends Use	45.3	46.6	42.0
Relief of Tensions, Worries	36.2	39.6	47.2
Makes Feel Good	63.6	68.3	34.7
Habit	16.8	16.8	59.6
Don't Know	28.2	21.2	27.8

major reason for not using. This finding contrasts sharply with the importance placed on friends using the various drugs as a reason for using themselves. (Table 16).

Fear of becoming dependent was given as the major non-use reason for 9.6% of alcohol non-users, 6.3% of cannabis non-users, and 5% of tobacco non-users. A number of students explained their non-use on the basis that the use of these drugs would interfere with other things they would like to do (alcohol - 10.4%, cannabis - 7.3%, and tobacco - 11.9%).

Major Findings -

1. Approximately one-half of the non-users of alcohol, cannabis and tobacco felt their major reason for that decision was because they were either not interested, or felt it would interfere with other things they wanted to do.
2. More cannabis and tobacco non-users chose physical harmfulness of the chemical as the major reason than did non-users of alcohol.
3. Parental disapproval was cited as a major reason for non-use by a higher proportion of alcohol than cannabis or tobacco non-users.

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4. Disapproval by friends was given as the major reason for non-use by a very small percentage of students for all drugs.
5. Fear of becoming dependent was cited by one out of ten students as their major reason for not drinking.

Reasons For Use(Table 16)

Students using the various drugs were asked in this section of the survey what reasons for using were important to them. Drug using students could, therefore, indicate more than one important reason for using either alcohol, cannabis, or tobacco.

The most frequently cited reason for using alcohol (63.6%) and cannabis (68.3%) was that it made them feel good. Boredom and because friends used were respectively the second and third most frequently cited reasons for both of these drugs (between 45% and 49%). Reasons reported by between 30% and 40% of alcohol and cannabis users were that they were more at ease in groups; more at ease with the opposite sex; and that the drugs relieved tension or worry.

It is interesting to note that 16.8% of alcohol and cannabis users felt an important reason for their using

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was out of habit.

No sharp differences occurred in comparing the proportion of alcohol and cannabis using students reporting the individual reasons as important. Slightly more alcohol than cannabis users gave social reasons for use. Reasons for cannabis use compared to alcohol use is slightly higher for relieving tension, worries, and making them feel good.

The most frequently cited reasons for tobacco are habit (59.6%), boredom (57%), relief of tensions and worries (47.2%), and because friends use (42%).

Major Findings -

1. The three most frequently cited reasons that the students gave for using alcohol and cannabis were that it makes them feel good, relieves boredom, and because their friends do.
2. One out of every six users of alcohol and cannabis felt that habit was an important reason for their use of the drug.

Sources of Information About Drugs (Table 17)

More students felt they had obtained the most useful information on alcohol (28%), cannabis (29.7%), and tobacco (25%) from special school programs such as peer

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TABLE 17

DRUG EFFECTS - MOST USEFUL INFORMATION (%)

INFORMATION SOURCE	ALCOHOL	CANNABIS	TOBACCO
Family	21.9	13.0	18.0
Kids	7.7	12.5	7.0
Church or School	14.9	19.3	17.7
T.V., Radio, Newspaper	16.4	18.8	23.3
Own Experience	10.9	6.7	9.1
Special School Program (Peer Education, Addiction Services, etc.)	28.1	29.7	24.9

education or Addiction Services, than from any other source.

For alcohol the other most frequently cited sources of useful information were the family (21.9%), the media (16.4%), and church or school (14.9%). For cannabis other high ranking useful information sources were the church or school (19.3%), and the media (18.8%). For tobacco the media (23.3%) was the second most reported source of useful information.

Significantly, more students picked alcohol information from the family as compared to cannabis information from the family as the most useful source. Conversely, other students, and church or school, were picked by more students as the most useful information source about cannabis.

Some consistent patterns occur with regard to sex and the most useful sources of drug information, and grade and the most useful sources of drug information. For all three drugs, alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco, there is a significant difference in the proportion of males and females choosing the media and special school programs as their most useful information source. Approximately 5% more males than females choose the media, and more

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females (approximately 6%) than males chose special school programs. All other sources of information showed no significant difference with regards to the student's sex.

The grade of the student and the pattern of choosing the most useful source of information for all three drugs are remarkably similar for individual sources. The choice of the family decreases gradually with increasing grade level, while there is an increase in choosing other students or the media as the most useful source as the grade level increases. The choice of the church or the school drops sharply between Grade VII and Grade VIII, and then tends to stabilize.

There is a sharp increase between Grade IX and Grade X in students choosing their own experience as their most useful source of drug information. The number of students choosing a special school program as most useful tends to remain stable across grade levels.

Two-thirds (64.5%) of the students reported being exposed to drug education in the classroom and one-third (37%) had been exposed to peer education programs. Sixty-seven percent felt they were receiving sufficient useful information about all drugs. Most students felt that drug education should be started in Grade VII or below

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(62%), or in Grade VIII or Grade IX (21%).

Students felt that they should be receiving further information about the use of drugs from ex-users (32%), parents (17%), teachers (17%), medical personnel (12%), Addiction Services (11%), the media (10%), and the clergy (1%).

Major Findings -

1. The most highly ranked source of useful alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco information was special school programs.
2. More students picked the family as the most useful information source for alcohol than they did for cannabis.
3. Other students, and the church and school were picked by more students than the family as their most useful source of cannabis information.
4. The choice of the family as a useful source of drug information drops with increasing grade level, while there is an increase in choosing other students or the media as their grade level increases.
5. The majority of students felt that drug education should begin in Grade VII or below.

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The Family Environment

Living Arrangement

Cannabis use at least once in the previous six months by students is significantly related to the number of parents a student is living with at present. A smaller proportion of students living with both parents use cannabis (24%) than those living with the mother only (32%), father only (36%), or neither parent (40%). Also fewer students living with both parents use tobacco on a daily basis (23%) than for students in other home situations (29%).

No significant relationship occurred between the number of, or the sex of the parent, the student was living with and their use of alcohol or magic mushrooms during the previous six months.

Major Findings -

1. Cannabis use is lower among students who live with both parents.
2. Alcohol use has no relationship to whether the student is living with both parents, one parent, or not with the parents.

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Parents' Occupational, Employment and Educational Status

No significant differences occurred between the proportion of students using alcohol or magic mushrooms and the father's occupational status. However, students whose fathers were fishermen or farmers tended to become intoxicated significantly less than those in the other occupational categories.

The children of professionals reported the highest number of cannabis users (28.1%). The proportion whose fathers were skilled workers using cannabis was 26.4%, not employed 23.6%, unskilled 22%, and farmers and fishermen 17.6%.

Tobacco was used on a daily basis by fewer children of farmers and fishermen (19.7%) than for the other occupational categories (23% to 26%).

Children of fathers who are employed seasonally are less likely to be using cannabis (20.6%) than those whose fathers are employed (25.6%) or unemployed (25.3%). Also, they are slightly less likely to be using magic mushrooms.

There was no significant differences between the proportion of students whose fathers are from various employment status categories using alcohol at least once in the previous six months, or using tobacco daily. However, children of fathers who are unemployed are the

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least likely to get intoxicated frequently when drinking (37.8%), compared to the seasonal (49.5%), and employed (51.4%) categories.

Students whose mother's are full-time homemakers were the least likely to use cannabis (21.6%) compared to those student's mothers who are employed seasonally (24.3%), employed full-time (28.1%), or unemployed (26.5%). Children of homemakers were also slightly less likely to be using tobacco on a daily basis.

No significant differences occurred between mother's employment status and proportion of students using alcohol and magic mushrooms, and the frequency of becoming intoxicated while drinking.

Alcohol was used by fewer students whose mother or father was a university, college, or nursing school graduate (60%) than students whose parents had less education (71%).

Cannabis use was higher proportionately for students whose mother had attained either some college or some high school education,(27% to 29%) than for those whose mother was a university, college, or nursing school graduate (21%), or those with junior high school education or less (20.5%. Father's education showed no significant relationship to student's use of cannabis.

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Daily use of tobacco was highest among students whose mothers had more than a high school education (27%) than those with high school or less (20%). Father's educational level was unrelated to student's daily tobacco use.

No significant differences occurred between parent's educational level and student's magic mushroom use.

Major Findings -

1. The children of fathers who are farmers or fishermen or who are seasonally employed, or whose mothers are full-time homemakers, nursing school graduates, or who have very little education are less likely to have used cannabis.
2. Students tended to become intoxicated less if their father was a farmer or fisherman or was unemployed.
3. Alcohol had been used by fewer students whose parents had graduated from either college, university, or nursing school.

Parental Drug Use

In Prince Edward Island, there is a statistically significant relationship between the mother's use of alcohol and tobacco, the father's use of tobacco, and their children's use of the same drug. In the case of tobacco, 21% who reported that their mother did not use tobacco

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used it daily themselves, in contrast with 31% reporting both themselves and their mother using tobacco daily. A similar pattern (20% and 29%) followed the father's use of tobacco. These findings are consistent with the 1972 P.E.I. Survey results.

Alcohol use by students was related significantly to whether or not either of their parents drank and how much the parent drank. Alcohol use was reported by 55.6% of the students whose fathers did not drink, and by 69% of those whose fathers did drink. When the mother did not drink, 57% of the students used alcohol, but when she did drink 73.1% of the students also used alcohol. Again, the proportion of the students using alcohol increased as the amount their mother or father consumed increased. These patterns of alcohol use between parents and their children are consistent with the findings in the 1972 P.E.I. Survey.

The relationship between parents use and student's use of cannabis cannot be reported with confidence because of low cell frequencies in the results. In general, however, the proportion of students using cannabis was higher for those students who reported that their parents used cannabis. Also considering the positive

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relationship reported above between parent's use and their children's use of tobacco and/or alcohol, it is important to reflect on the results which show a high correlation between student's tobacco use and the proportion using alcohol or cannabis (Table 5), and the student's alcohol use and the proportion using cannabis (Table 6).

These results are highly suggestive that considering the increasing chance of the student using alcohol and/or tobacco with a parent using alcohol and/or tobacco, there is a greater chance of their children using cannabis if either parent uses either alcohol or tobacco.

Students reported that 80.5% of their fathers drink, with 8% doing so daily. One out of every six students (15.8%) felt that their father had a mild problem with alcohol, and one in ten (10.4%) felt that there was a severe problem.

Students reported that 64% of their mothers drink with 2.4% using alcohol daily. Fewer students felt that their mother had a mild (4.8%) or severe (1.5%) problem with alcohol as compared to their father.

Major Findings -

1. If either parent smokes tobacco, then there is more of a chance that their children will smoke on a daily

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basis.

2. Students were more likely to use alcohol if their parents drank alcohol and most particularly if they drank frequently.
3. One out of every ten students felt that their father had a severe problem with alcohol, while only 1.5% felt that their mother had a problem with alcohol.

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DISCUSSION

The 1982 Prince Edward Island survey on the drug use of high school students has revealed a variety of interesting trends among the students. These trends for the most part are in close agreement with those reported in recent studies in Canada and the United States, which attests to the validity of our study.

The major finding of the survey was the sharp increase from 1976 in the use of marijuana (cannabis). The increase in the number of students who have reported using this drug at least once during the past six months has now reached twenty-five percent of the student population from fifteen percent six years ago. In 1976 approximately twice as many students in other areas of North America as compared to P.E.I., reported having at least some use of the drug. However, in contrast to Prince Edward Island, very little increase in use has been reported since that time in these other geographic areas. The approximate use reported in the rest of the country is about thirty percent of the student population, which is only five percent above our established figure of twenty-five percent.

Although almost half the Prince Edward Island student marijuana users could be classified as experi-

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menters (used once or twice in past six months), one of every six users is doing so at least weekly (about 3½% of the adolescent population), and one in every twenty smokers of marijuana are using it daily (1% of the adolescent population). The daily users of marijuana is now more than twice the number reported in 1976.

Alcohol continues to be by far the most popular drug used among Prince Edward Island adolescents, as it is in the adult population. Unfortunately, this widely-used, recreational liquid is not considered as a drug by adolescents any more than it is by the adult population. The numbers reporting use of alcohol increased only slightly since 1976, when a large increase in use was reported from 1972. The major pattern found among student alcohol users, since the last Prince Edward Island survey, is that twice as many students now report becoming inebriated at least half the time when they are drinking. One in every two students who drink report getting drunk at least half the time. Another disturbing finding in the current survey is that almost one-quarter of all adolescents who drink, or 16% of all adolescents, are using

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alcohol on at least a weekly basis.

The use of magic mushrooms was a new area of investigation for the Prince Edward Island survey. Approximately one in ten high school students reported some use of this naturally occurring drug, but most of those who used it could be classified as experimenters. The low incidence of this use relative to alcohol and cannabis should not be used to minimize its disruptive impact on the student population. This largely poisonous drug is easily accessible in the fall of the year to almost any student who desires its psychological effects, and it causes serious acute consequences to a minority of the users. It is fortunate that the effects on the community and the user tend to be concentrated in a short time span.

The use of stimulants which may be prescription drugs but are usually obtained by adolescents from friends and dealers, has almost doubled since the last survey. Those who have experimented with the use of stimulants is approximately seven percent of the student population. This increase coincides with a similar increase in Ontario and the United States over a comparable time. These drugs, known as pep pills, diet

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pills, speed, etc. have been at times called the "poor man's cocaine". The rapid rise in popularity of this group of drugs could indicate that a certain minority of high school students are more attracted to stimulant drugs than to the usual sedative drugs such as alcohol, tranquillizers, hypnotics, etc. This again may be a trend found in the adult population which is merely being followed by the adolescents. In bad economic times, when depressive mood states are more common than the anxious states which occur in better times, mood stimulation could be more attractive than sedatives to obtain pleasurable feelings.

In all three Prince Edward Island surveys, 1972, 1976, and 1982, more male than female students use and frequently use alcohol and cannabis. However, over the past ten years the number of females using, and frequently using, these drugs has increased at a faster rate than males, thus significantly narrowing the incidence. It is interesting that more females than males reported daily use of tobacco. No significant change in male or female tobacco use occurred between the 1976 and 1982 survey, but the overall use of tobacco is higher on P.E.I. among adolescents than in other areas of the

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country.

The majority of students reporting at least some use of either alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or magic mushrooms had their initial contact with the chemical or drug between the ages of thirteen and sixteen. This coincides with the largest increase in incidence of use of drugs by grade level. Very few students began the use of these drugs before the age of thirteen, and few started after the age of sixteen.

One fascinating correlation was found in the study which had not been noted previously. It has been popularily stated that among frequent users of marijuana, a significant proportion will proceed to the use of harder drugs such as LSD and heroin. In this study of adolescents we found that the major drug associated with using other drugs was tobacco. It has been stated that 85% of persons beginning the use of nicotine will eventually become physically dependent on it. We found that students who smoked cigarettes daily are much more likely to be using alcohol or marijuana. Twice as many smokers are using alcohol, and six times as many are using marijuana than are non-smokers. Also, students who are weekly users of alcohol are incredibly eighty

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times more likely to have used cannabis than those who use alcohol less frequently.

These correlations could be extremely important in prevention programs, since one may infer that if the student can be discouraged from using tobacco, the incidence of alcohol and marijuana use could possibly decrease. Further, if the students could also be discouraged from using alcohol on a frequent basis, the incidence of marijuana use could markedly decrease. Therefore, the statement by some parents when their adolescent becomes impaired - "I'm glad he's only drinking, and not on drugs" - signifying tolerance for the use of one drug over another - becomes inconsistent and self-defeating in prevention of chemical problems. Parental influence on their children on the non-use of tobacco and alcohol is reported by the adolescents as being much stronger than on the non-use of marijuana. This lack of influence could be attributed to a lack of knowledge by parents on this topic. Prevention programs related to marijuana and directed towards parents, especially those with younger children, need to be developed.

There is a very strong relationship between the

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number of students using the major drugs such as alcohol, marijuana and tobacco, and the size of the community in which the student lives. The more highly populated the area the greater the chances the student will be using one of these drugs. This is especially so for marijuana and magic mushrooms, where twice as many urban as rural students reported at least some use of the drugs.

The influence of the family on the drug use of adolescents was found to be considerable in our survey. We noted that significantly fewer students who were living with both parents had used marijuana, but no strong correlation emerged in relation to their use of other drugs. Students who classified their mothers as full-time homemakers were less likely to have used marijuana than those with mothers employed outside the home.

The family's use of drugs related closely to the student's use. If either parent used alcohol or tobacco there was a greater chance that the student would also report use of these drugs, and the greater the frequency of the parent's use, the greater the likelihood the student would also report frequent use.

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Parental influence is therefore felt to be a major factor in adolescent alcohol and drug use, and markedly increased efforts to effect changes in the attitudes of the adult population towards alcohol and drug use are indicated.

Most students who reported using either alcohol or cannabis obtained these drugs either free or bought it from one of their friends. The most frequently cited location for use of these drugs was at a friend's home. Those students who reported not using drugs, very rarely cited disapproval by friends as a reason for not using. Conversely, of those who did use alcohol or marijuana, many reported friend's use as an important reason for their using. These results indicated that the peer group exerts a strong influence on the student's drinking and drug taking behavior, but does not exert nearly as much pressure for a non-drinking or other drug using type of behavior.

Student school performance was strongly related to their use of the various drugs; the higher a student's average in school, the less likely he or she was to have reported using any of these drugs. Also, teenagers reporting decreases in overall average in the past year

...53 /

were more likely to be using any or all of the drugs surveyed than were those whose average increased or stayed the same. Obviously, the frequent use of alcohol or marijuana by the student has an adverse effect on their overall school performance, and should be suspected by teachers and parents when this decrease occurs.

The period of school life where the largest increase in the number of students using any drug tended to occur was between Grades 7 and 8, and to a lesser degree from Grades 9 to 10. These results are interesting when we consider that most students in Grade 7 are around thirteen years of age when the majority of students begin experiencing the greatest physiological and psychological changes that occur in their teenage years. Also, on Prince Edward Island most students going from Grade 9 to Grade 10 are entering a senior high school which is a new social milieu, where they are exposed to older students who have access to cars and have easier access to various drugs, as well as to alcohol. It also appears as though most students who decide to use some form of chemical have made this decision before the end of their Grade 10 year.

... 54/

Over all, more students are using more alcohol and other drugs at an earlier age and thus exposing themselves to mood-altering chemicals at a very vulnerable stage in their physical and mental development. For educational purposes, it sould be noted that the only significant decrease in any drug useage at any grade level since the last survey, was for alcohol at the Grade 7 level. It is interesting that Addiction Services on Prince Edward Island has directed its major educational thrust over the past several years at the Grade 6 and 7 students. Possibly, an increased effort of wider scope including tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana, should be directed at other key grade levels by some agency or the school system.

It is felt by this research team that the major objective of prevention programs should be the utilization of all community resources and mechanisms to prohibit any use of any of these chemicals during the important formative years from age 13 to 16. Also, it is imperative for those involved in decisions and programs relating to drug use to read the entire report.

In closing, it a matter for concern to note the increase in the use of the various drugs surveyed by

... 55/

the adolescent population of Prince Edward Island since 1976, even though a proportion of this use indicated experimentation. Although this increase is more significant for marijuana, even alcohol, which was the only major drug not reported to have a large increase in the number of students using it, is now being abused (students getting drunk) by many more students. The use of alcohol still remains alarmingly high among teenagers whose use of it is as illegal as the use of any of the other drugs. The results of this survey reveal many patterns which are related to students drug use on Prince Edward Island. We sincerely hope that the information contained in this report, which was obtained from the extensive survey, will give the population of Prince Edward Island a more adequate understanding of the extent of the problem, and the various elements which affect students use of chemicals. We trust, also, that it will assist those who must consider how its contents can be used constructively in order to design programs which will prevent the many consequences which are secondary to the students use of these varying chemicals, which are so prevalent in our society.

APPENDIX A

Figure 1: Age

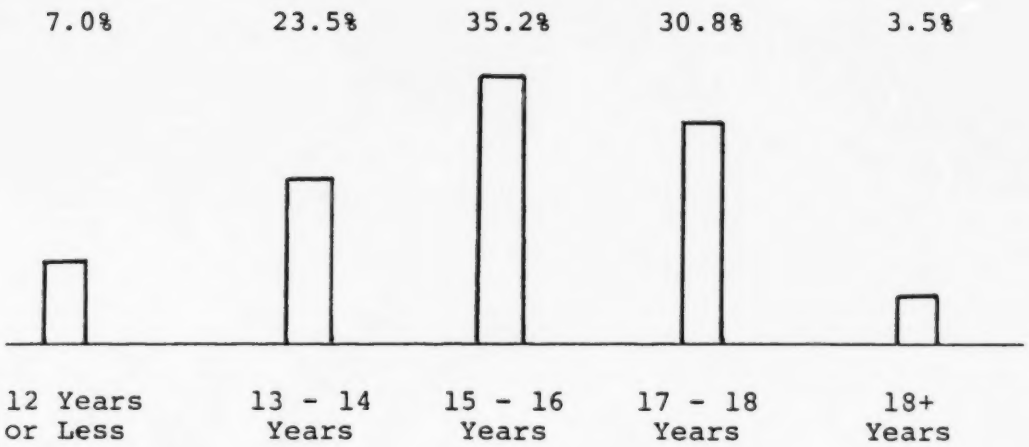


Figure 2: Grade

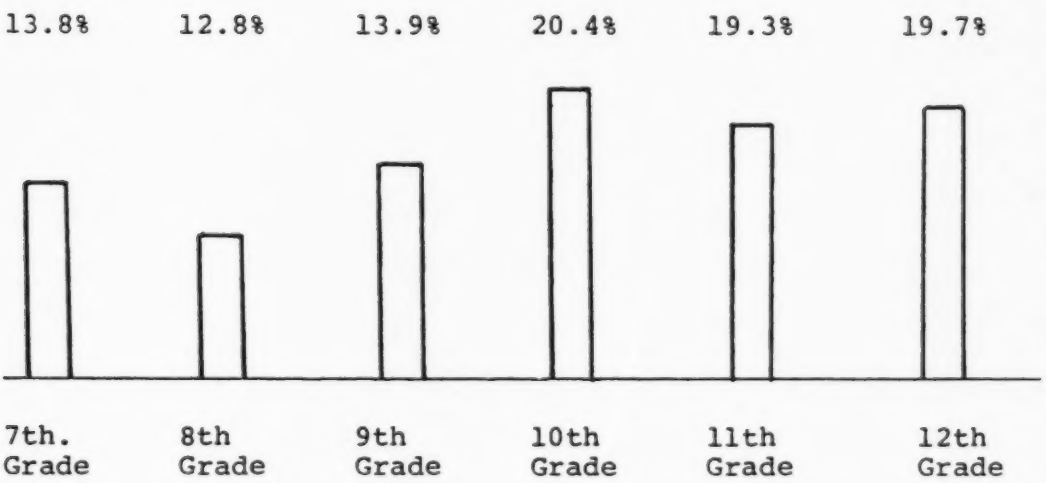


Figure 3: Sex

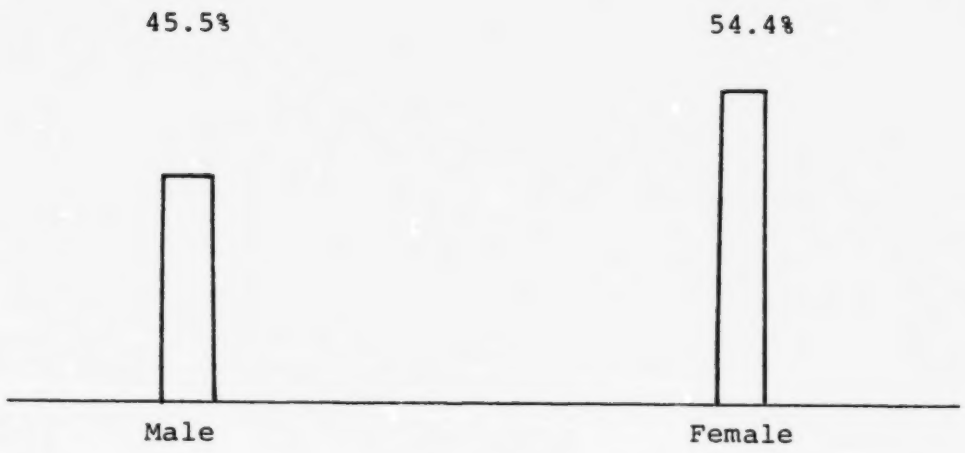


Figure 4: Years on P.E.I.

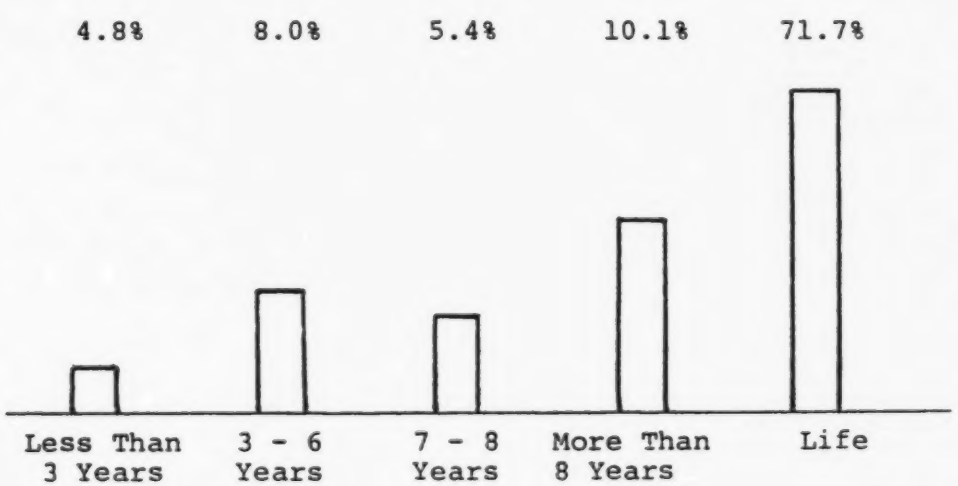


Figure 5: Home Location

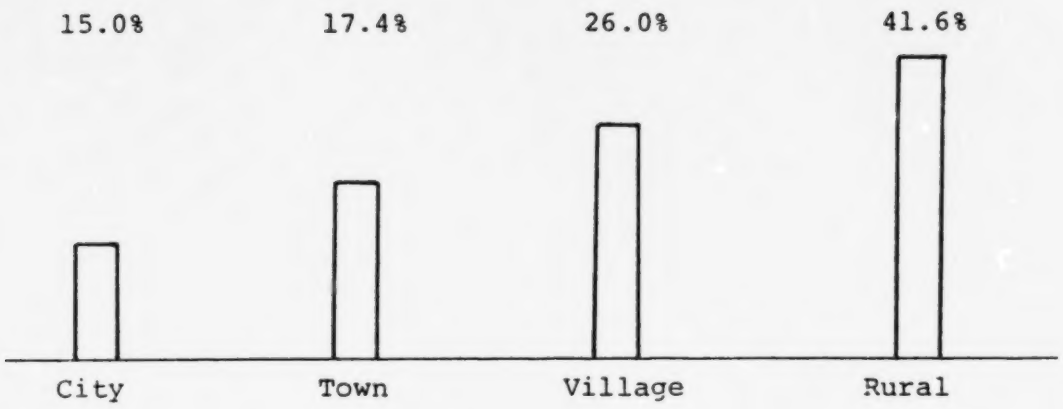


Figure 6: Living Arrangements

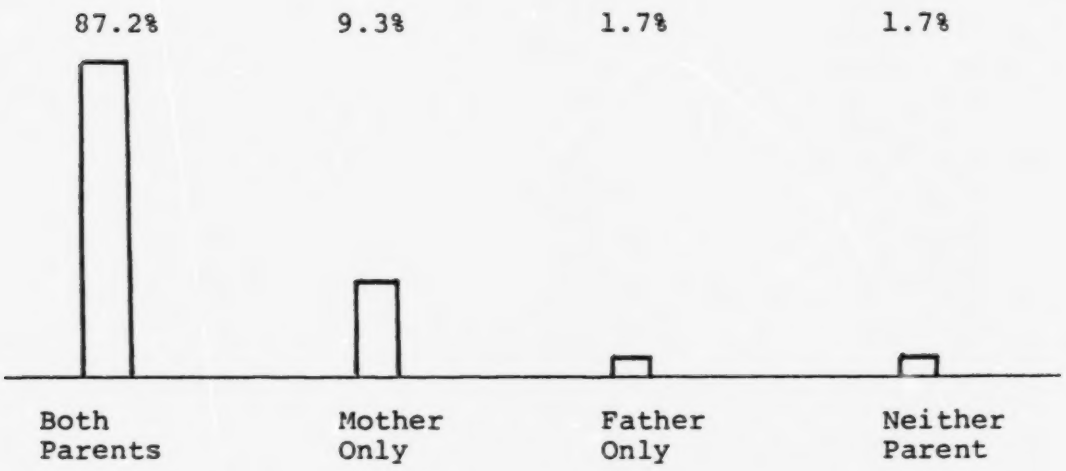


Figure 7: Father's Work

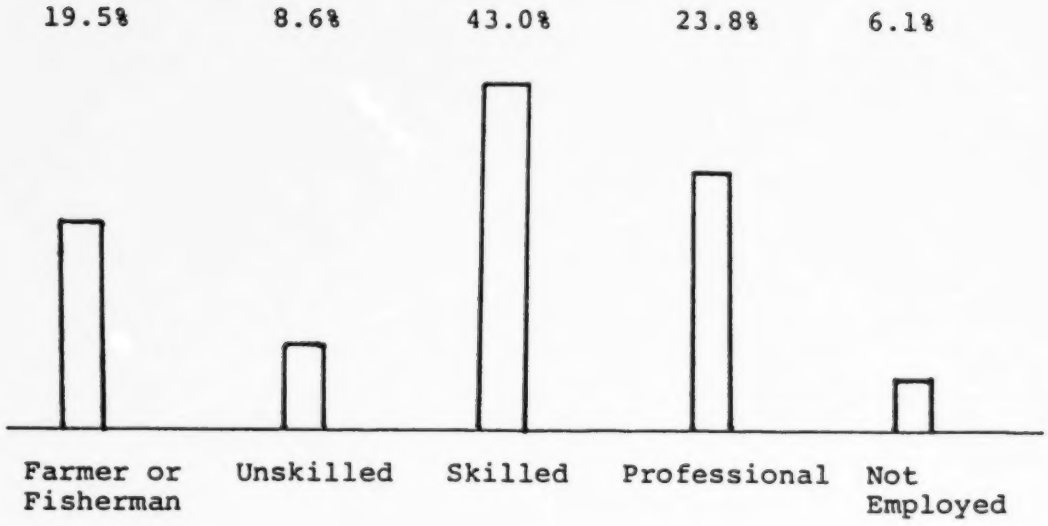


Figure 8: Mother's Work

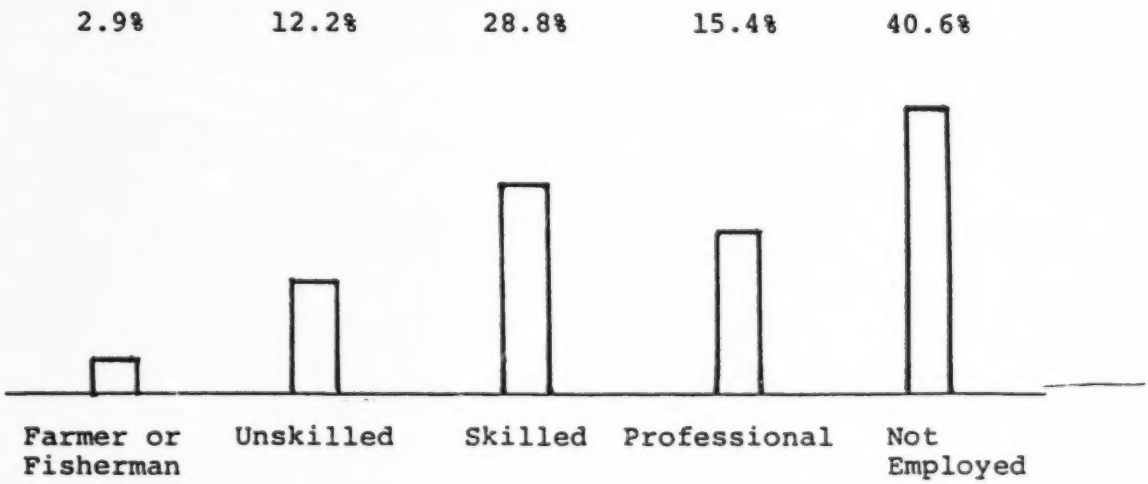


Figure 9: Overall School Average

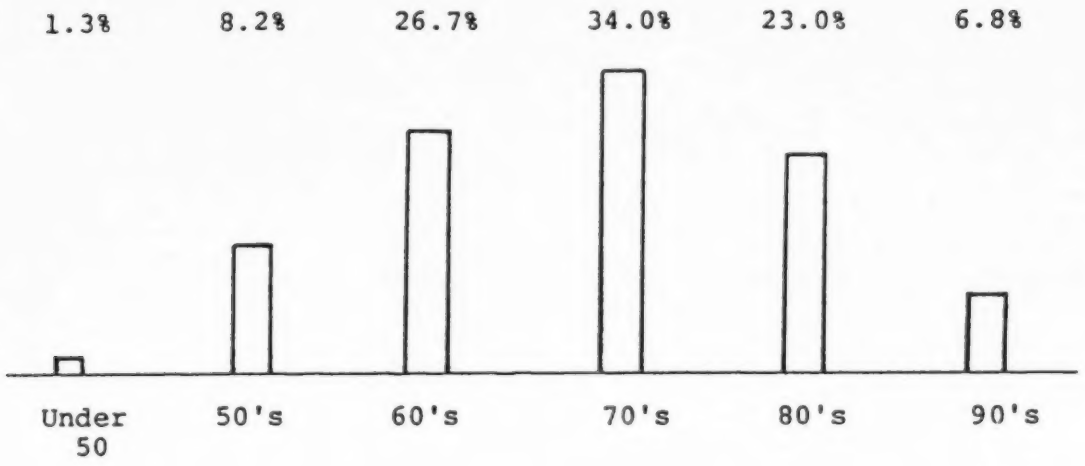
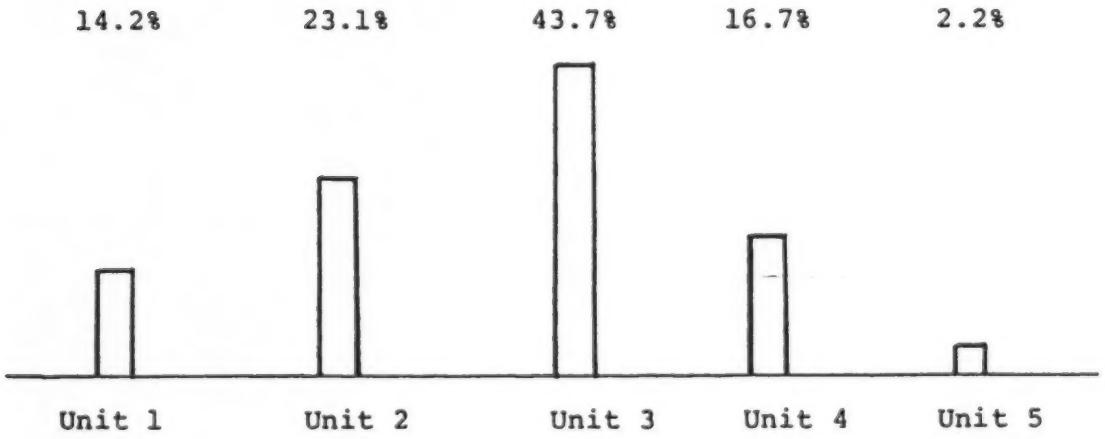


Figure 10: School Unit



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STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE INCIDENCE OF DRUG USE ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Please DO NOT sign your name anywhere on this booklet. This will insure the complete anonymity of your answers. There is no way your individual questionnaire can ever be identified.

INSTRUCTIONS:

I. You need two things: (a) the Question Booklet; and (b) a pencil and an eraser.

II. The questions are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 .... etc.

III. Your answers will be indicated in two ways, by (A) CIRCLING the appropriate letter beside the answer you have chosen; and by (B) CHECKING (✓) the appropriate box.

FOR EXAMPLE:

A. CIRCLE the letter beside the answer you have chosen:

1. Use of marijuana among students IN THIS SCHOOL is:

   A. lower than last year
   B. the same as last year
   C. higher than last year
   D. I do not know

B. CHECK (✓) the appropriate box.

2. How often have you drunk alcohol on the Borden or Wood Islands Ferry boat?

never	once	occasionally	frequently
[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]

3. Have you ever smoked marijuana or hashish off the Island? (check "not applicable" if you do not smoke dope).

Yes	No	Not Applicable
[A]	[B]	[C]

1. What is your AGE (in years)?

A. 13 or under
B. 14
C. 15
D. 16
E. 17
F. 18
G. over 18

2. What grade are you in?

A. 7th
B. 8th
C. 9th
D. 10th
E. 11th
F. 12th

3. What is your SEX?

A. Male
B. Female

4. How long have you lived in Prince Edward Island?

A. all my life
B. more than 8 years, but less than all my life
C. 7 to 8 years
D. 5 to 6 years
E. 3 to 4 years
F. less than 3 years

5. Where do you live?

A. in a city
B. in a town
C. in a village
D. in a rural area

6. Who are you currently living with?

A. both my mother and father (either natural or adopted)
B. my mother only
C. my father only
D. neither my mother nor father

7. What is your father's employment status?

A. permanently employed (working full-time for himself or someone else)
B. permanently unemployed (disabled or retired)
C. seasonally employed (fishing, road maintenance, construction, etc.)
D. intermittently employed (no steady job)
E. do not know or no longer living

8. What kind of work does your father do?

A. farmer or fisherman (owns or rents own farm or boat)
B. unskilled (farm labourer, janitor, road maintenance, cab driver, etc.)
C. skilled or semi-skilled (carpenter, baker, electrician, baker, clerical, policeman, machine operator, plumber, sales, bookkeeper, office worker, salesman, secretary, etc.)
D. professional, managerial, proprietor (doctor, teacher, manager, architect, engineer, building contractor, owner of food store or other business, etc.)
E. not employed
F. do not know or no longer living

...2/

9. How much schooling does your father have?

A. graduated from college or university
B. some college or university
C. graduated from high school, trade or vocational school
D. some high school
E. junior high or less
F. do not know

10. What is your mother's employment status?

A. full-time homemaker (does not have a job outside the home)
B. permanently employed
C. permanently unemployed (disabled or retired)
D. seasonally employed
E. intermittently employed
F. do not know or no longer living

11. What kind of work does your mother do? (Check "not employed" if your mother is a full-time homemaker who does not work outside the home for pay).

A. farming or fishing
B. unskilled (farm labourer, waitress, etc.)
C. skilled or semi-skilled (secretary, bookkeeper, sales, office worker, child care worker, etc.)
D. professional, managerial, proprietor (doctor, teacher, manager, owner of store or other business, etc.)
E. not employed
F. do not know or no longer living

12. How much schooling does your mother have?

A. graduated from college or university
B. graduated from nursing school
C. some college or university
D. graduated from high school, trade or vocational school
E. some high school
F. junior high or less
G. do not know

13. What is your AVERAGE performance for all school subjects this year?

A. under 50%
B. in the 50's
C. in the 60's
D. in the 70's
E. in the 80's
F. in the 90's

14. Comparing your average performance for all school subjects this year as opposed to last year, would you say your performance has

A. improved over last year
B. decreased over last year
C. stayed about the same as last year

...3/

How old were you when you first used each of the following drugs without medical advice or medical supervision? (Check "never" if you never used the drug).

	under 12	12	13	14	15	16	17	18 or over	never
15. cigarettes	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
16. alcohol	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
17. solvents (like glue, thinner, spray)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
18. tranquilizers (like Librium, Valium)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
19. barbiturates (like Seconal, Amytal, Phenobarb, "barbs", "downers")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
20. non-barbiturate hypnotics (like sleeping pills, Mandrax, Doriden, "uppers", "Ludes")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
21. Mescaline	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
22. L.S.D. ("acid")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
23. P.C.P. ("angeldust")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
24. magic mushrooms	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
25. marijuana or hashish ("grass" or "hash")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
26. Cocaine ("snow")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
27. stimulants by mouth (pep pills, diet pills, "uppers", "speed")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
28. stimulants by needle ("speed")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
29. opiates by mouth (Codeine like 222's, 229's, etc., cough syrups with narcotics)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]
30. opiates by needle (Heroin, Opium, Morphine, Demerol)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]	[F]	[G]	[H]	[I]

...4/

How often have you used each of the following drugs during the past 6 months?

	never	only once or twice	occasionally (less than weekly)	weekly	daily
31. cigarettes	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
32. alcohol	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
33. solvents (like glue, thinner, spray)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
34. tranquilizers (like Librium, Valium)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
35. barbiturates (like Seconal, Amytal, Phenobarb, "barbs", "downers")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
36. non-barbiturate hypnotics (like sleeping pills, Mandrax, Doriden, "uppers", "Ludes")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
37. mescaline	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
38. L.S.D. ("acid")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
39. P.C.P. ("angeldust")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
40. magic mushrooms	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
41. marijuana or hashish ("grass" or "hash")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
42. cocaine ("snow")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
43. stimulants by mouth (pep pills, diet pills, "uppers", "speed")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
44. stimulants by needle ("speed")	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
45. opiates by mouth (codeine like 222's, 229's, etc., cough syrups with narcotics)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]
46. opiates by needle (Heroin, Opium, Morphine, Demerol)	[A]	[B]	[C]	[D]	[E]

47. How old were you when you first began smoking cigarettes fairly regularly?

A. under 12 C. 14 E. 16 G. 18 or over
B. 13 D. 15 F. 17 H. never

48. Does your mother smoke cigarettes?

A. yes B. no C. not applicable

49. Does your father smoke cigarettes?

A. yes B. no C. not applicable

50. How old were you when you first began to drink alcohol fairly regularly?

A. under 12 C. 14 E. 16 G. 18 or over
B. 13 D. 15 F. 17 H. never

...5/

If you have never, or only once, used alcohol in the last 6 months, proceed directly to question 63.

51. With whom were you the last time you drank either beer, wine, or liquor beverages?

A. by myself
B. with a date
C. with a friend or friends, but not on a date
D. with my parents
E. with my brother(s) or sister(s)

52. Where were you the last time you drank either beer, wine, or liquor beverages?

A. at home
B. at a public place outdoors (park, beach, campground, etc.)
C. at a public place indoors (club, lounge, restaurant, etc.)
D. at school during school hours
E. at a school dance
F. at a community dance
G. at a friend's home or prior to a party
H. at a public party (wedding, etc.)
I. in a car
J. at a sporting event

53. How did you obtain your alcoholic beverages the last time you drank either beer, wine, or liquor beverages?

A. bought it myself at a liquor store
B. bought it myself at a bar, lounge, or restaurant
C. bought it myself from a bootlegger
D. friends bought it for me at a liquor store
E. friends bought it for me from a bootlegger
F. strangers bought it for me
G. used my parents' supply

54. Have you ever used a false I.D. card to obtain alcoholic beverages or to enter a club or lounge?

A. never B. rarely C. often D. most of the time

55. If you have attempted to buy alcoholic beverages at a bar, club, lounge, or liquor store, how often have you been asked to show an I.D. card?

A. never B. rarely C. often D. most of the time

56-59. Disregarding any extreme experience, indicate the typical amount you drink of each of the following alcoholic beverages during a normal session.

	don't normally drink this	1 - 2 glasses (or drinks)	3 - 4 glasses (or drinks)	5 - 6 glasses (or drinks)	7 or more glasses (or drinks)
56. beer (1 glass equals 12 oz. or one bottle)	A	B	C	D	E
57. wine (1 glass equals 4 oz.)	A	B	C	D	E
58. liquor (1 drink equals 1½ oz. or 1 shot)	A	B	C	D	E

.../

59. How often do you get drunk when you drink?

A. never C. about half of the time E. always
B. seldom D. nearly always

In the last 6 months, how often have the following experiences resulted from your use of alcohol?

	never	once	two or more times
60. been arrested, whether detained or charged for either drunken driving or some other drinking related behavior	A	B	C
61. come before school authorities for punishment	A	B	C
62. missed at least a half a day of school	A	B	C
63. skipped one or more classes	A	B	C
64. had an accident or physical injury	A	B	C
65. been expelled from classroom or school	A	B	C
66. lost a job	A	B	C
67. became involved in a fight	A	B	C
68. damaged school property	A	B	C
69. stolen something	A	B	C
70. did not complete homework or other school assignment	A	B	C
71. did poorly on a school assignment, test, etc.	A	B	C
72. felt restless, nervous, or uptight	A	B	C
73. felt physically ill (nauseated, headache, etc.)	A	B	C

Why do you think you use alcohol? Indicate how important each of the following reasons are for you.

	not important at all	fairly important	very important
74. because I feel more at ease and less self-conscious in a group	A	B	C
75. because I feel I can express myself more easily	A	B	C
76. because I feel more at ease with the opposite sex	A	B	C
77. because I'm bored; there is not much else to do	A	B	C
78. because my friends drink	A	B	C
79. because I get relief from tensions and worries	A	B	C
80. because it makes me feel good	A	B	C
81. out of habit	A	B	C
82. I don't know	A	B	C

.../

81. How long have you held a permanent driver's license?

A. I do not have a permanent driver's license
B. less than 1 year
C. 1 - 2 years
D. three years or more

82. During the last 6 months, how often have you driven a motor vehicle within an hour after drinking at least two alcoholic drinks?

A. never
B. once
C. twice
D. three times or more

83. During the last 6 months, how often have you been charged with a driving offence (other than parking) after drinking alcoholic beverages?

A. never
B. once
C. twice
D. three times or more

86. During the last 6 months, how often have you been involved in a traffic accident as a driver after drinking alcoholic beverages?

A. never
B. once
C. twice
D. three times or more

CONTINUE HERE

87. If you at one time drank alcohol, have you now stopped? (Check "not applicable" if you have never used alcohol).

A. yes
B. no
C. not applicable

88. If you do not presently drink alcohol, which of the following comes closest to your reason for not doing so? (Select only one alternative).

A. I believe it is physically harmful
B. It makes me sick
C. I believe it is morally wrong
D. I believe it would interfere too much with other things I want to do (like sports, etc.)
E. I believe I might become dependent on it
F. My parents would not allow it
G. My friends are against it
H. I am just not interested in it

89. Do your brother(s) and/or sister(s) use alcohol regularly? (Check "not applicable" if you do not have any brothers or sisters).

A. yes
B. no
C. not applicable

90. How often does your father use alcohol?

A. never
B. rarely
C. once or twice a month
D. once or more a week
E. daily
F. not applicable

91. How often does your mother use alcohol?

A. never
B. rarely
C. once or twice a month
D. once or more a week
E. daily
F. not applicable

...8/

92. If you at one time smoked cigarettes regularly, have you now stopped? (Check "not applicable" if you never smoked cigarettes).

A. yes
B. no
C. not applicable

93. If you do not presently smoke cigarettes, which of the following comes closest to your reason for not doing so? (Select only one alternative).

A. I believe it is physically harmful
B. It makes me sick
C. I believe it is morally wrong
D. I believe it would interfere too much with other things I want to do (like sports, etc.)
E. I believe I might become dependent on it
F. My parents would not allow it
G. My friends are against it
H. I am just not interested in it

Is there an alcohol problem with any of the following persons in your family?

	Not applicable	None	Mild	Severe
94. Mother	[A]	[B]	[C]	D
95. Father	[A]	[B]	[C]	D
96. Sister	[A]	[B]	[C]	D
97. Brother	[A]	[B]	[C]	D
98. Grandparent	[A]	[B]	[C]	D
99. Other close relative	[A]	[B]	[C]	D

If you have never, or only once, used marijuana or hashish in the last 6 months, proceed directly to question 110.

100. WHO were you with the last time you used marijuana or hashish.

A. by myself
B. with a date
C. with a friend or friends, but not on a date
D. with my parents
E. with my brother(s) or sister(s)

101. WHERE were you the last time you used marijuana or hashish.

A. at home
B. at a public place outdoors (park, beach, campground, etc.)
C. at a public place indoors (club, lounge, restaurant, etc.)
D. at school during school hours
E. at a school dance
F. at a community dance
G. at a friend's home or prior to a party
H. at a public party (wedding, etc.)
I. in a car
J. at a sporting event

...9/

100. How did you obtain your marijuana or hashish the last time you used it?

A. bought it myself from a pusher or dealer
B. bought it myself from a friend
C. got it free from friends
D. grew my own
E. used my brother's or sister's supply

101. Disregarding any extreme experience, indicate the typical amount of marijuana or hashish you use during a normal session.

A. one joint
B. two joints
C. three joints
D. more than three joints

In the last 6 months, how often have the following experiences resulted from your use of marijuana or hashish?

		Never	Once	Two or More Times
102.	been arrested, whether detained or charged, for possession	(A)	(B)	(C)
103.	been arrested, whether detained or charged, for pushing or dealing	(A)	(B)	(C)
104.	come before school authorities for punishment	(A)	(B)	(C)
105.	missed at least half a day of school	(A)	(B)	(C)
106.	skipped one or more classes	(A)	(B)	(C)
107.	had an accident or physical injury	(A)	(B)	(C)
108.	been expelled from classroom or school	(A)	(B)	(C)
109.	lost a job	(A)	(B)	(C)
110.	become involved in a fight	(A)	(B)	(C)
111.	damaged school property	(A)	(B)	(C)
112.	stolen something	(A)	(B)	(C)
113.	did not complete homework or other school assignment	(A)	(B)	(C)
114.	felt restless, nervous, or uptight	(A)	(B)	(C)
115.	felt physically ill (nausea, headache, etc.)	(A)	(B)	(C)

Why do you think you use marijuana or hashish? Indicate how important each of the following reasons are for you.

		Not important at All	Fairly important	Very important
116.	because I feel more at ease and less self-conscious in a group	(A)	(B)	(C)
117.	because I feel I can express myself more easily	(A)	(B)	(C)
118.	because I feel more at ease with the opposite sex	(A)	(B)	(C)
119.	because I'm bored, there is not much else to do	(A)	(B)	(C)
120.	because my friends use them	(A)	(B)	(C)
121.	because I get relief from tensions and worries	(A)	(B)	(C)
122.	because it makes me feel good	(A)	(B)	(C)
123.	out of habit	(A)	(B)	(C)
124.	I don't know	(A)	(B)	(C)

125. During the last 6 months, how often have you driven a motor vehicle within an hour after using marijuana or hashish?

A. never
B. once
C. twice
D. three times or more

126. During the last 6 months, how often have you been charged with a driving offence (other than parking) after using marijuana or hashish?

A. never
B. once
C. twice
D. three times or more

127. During the last 6 months, how often have you been involved in a traffic accident as a driver after using marijuana or hashish?

A. never
B. once
C. twice
D. three times or more

CONTINUE HERE

128. How available is marijuana or hashish in your community?

A. not available
B. periodically available
C. almost always
D. always
E. do not know

138. If you at one time used marijuana or hashish, have you now stopped? (Check "not applicable" if you never used marijuana or hashish.

A. yes B. no C. not applicable

139. If you do not presently use marijuana or hashish, which of the following were <u>closest</u> to your reason for not doing so? (Select only one alternative).

A. I believe it is physically harmful
B. it makes me sick
C. I believe it is morally wrong
D. I believe it would interfere too much with other things I want to do (like sports, etc.)
E. I believe I might become dependent on it
F. my parents would not allow it
G. my friends are against it
H. I am just not interested in it

140. Is your brother(s) and/or sister(s) use marijuana or hashish? (Check "not applicable" if you do not have any brothers or sisters).

A. yes B. no C. not applicable

141. How often does your father use marijuana or hashish?

A. never B. rarely C. often D. I don't know E. not applicable

142. How often does your mother use marijuana or hashish?

A never B. rarely C. often D. I don't know E. not applicable

143. Where have you obtained the <u>most useful</u> information on the effects of tobacco?

A. from my family
B. from the kids I hang around with
C. from church or school
D. from the T.V., radio, newspaper
E. from my own experience with tobacco
F. from special school program (Peer Education Program, Addiction Services, etc.)

144. Where have you obtained the <u>most useful</u> information on the effects of alcohol?

A. from my family
B. from the kids I hang around with
C. from church or school
D. from the T.V., radio, newspaper
E. from my own experience with alcohol
F. from special school program (Peer Education Program, Addiction Services, etc.)

145. Where have you obtained the <u>most useful</u> information on the effects of marijuana or hashish?

A. from my family
B. from the kids I hang around with
C from church or school
D from the T.V., radio, newspaper
E. from my own experience with marijuana or hashish
F. from special school program (Peer Education Program, Addiction Services, etc.)

.../12/

146. Have you been exposed to information on drugs such as marijuana or hashish in your classroom?

A. yes B. no

147. Were you exposed to the recent Peer Education Program in your classroom?

A. yes B. no

148. Do you think the legal drinking age in P.E.I. (now 18 years) should be

A. raised B. stay the same C. lowered

149. Do you think alcohol use among students in your school is

A. lower than last year
B. the same as last year
C. higher than last year
D. I don't know

150. Do you think marijuana or hashish use among students in your school is

A. lower than last year
B. the same as last year
C. higher than last year
D. I don't know

151. Do you feel you are receiving sufficient useful information about alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drugs?

A. yes B. no

152. When do you feel drug and alcohol education should be started in schools?

A. Grade VII or below
B. Grade VIII or IX
C. Grade X or XI
D. Grade XII
E. drug education does not belong in schools

153. From which of the following sources do you feel you should be receiving further information about the use of drugs and alcohol?

A. medical
B. clergy
C. parents
D. teachers
E. ex users
F. T.V., radio, newspapers
G. Addiction Services

If you smoke cigarettes, please turn the page. If you do not presently smoke cigarettes, you have completed the questionnaire. Thank you.

.../13/

Why do you think you smoke cigarettes? Indicate how important each of the following reasons are for you.

		not important at all	fairly important	very important
147.	because I feel more at ease and less self-conscious in a group	[A]	[B]	[C]
148.	because I feel more at ease with the opposite sex	[A]	[B]	[C]
149.	because I'm bored; there is not much else to do	[A]	[B]	[C]
150.	because my friends smoke	[A]	[B]	[C]
151.	because I get relief from tensions and worries	[A]	[B]	[C]
152.	because it makes me feel good	[A]	[B]	[C]
153.	out of habit	[A]	[B]	[C]
154.	I don't know	[A]	[B]	[C]

THE END

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL